

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

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COUNTRY AustriaREPORT NO. TOPIC Soviet Troops in St. PoeltenEVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 3 and 4 March 1954

632955

DATE OBTAINED 25X1DATE PREPARED 6 April 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 3 March 1954, motor vehicles waiting in front of the former Kreisgericht (district court) building in St. Poelten (O 49/W 88), which was guarded by a sentry wearing black-bordered red epaulets, included trucks each driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets; jeep driver with black-bordered red epaulets; Some soldiers who wore black-bordered black epaulets hewed round timber in the Eugen Kaserne. No activities or motor vehicles were observed in the Rainer Kaserne. A low building, presumably a garage, was under construction in the yard of Franz Josef Kaserne, in which truck was parked. Trucks entered the installation. Officers and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, were observed at the northern gate of Camp Spratzern, and officers and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, were observed at the southern gate of the installation. There was no motor traffic. An aiming device representing a moving air target was seen in the western section of the camp, the barrels of three guns in an open shed in the same area. A truck mounting an AA machine gun was parked in the camp. ¹

2. On 4 March 1954, officers and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, and some soldiers who wore black-bordered black epaulets were observed at the Birago Kaserne in Melk (O 49/W 68), which was guarded by a sentry who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Jeep and 27 trucks were parked in the billeting area. Truck loaded with round timber and five soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and jeep driven by a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets and occupied by two officers, left the installation. ²

1. Comment. The report furnishes no new information. The officers and soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, who were observed at the northern gate of Camp Spratzern possibly belonged to the AAA battalion of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, while the officers and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, who were observed at the southern gate of the camp, presumably belonged to the 150th Tank SP Regt.

2. Comment. The 233d Gds Gun Arty Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div is stationed at Melk.

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